**Program 3 – Supranationalism and Devolution**

**Strasbourg and Slovakia**

**Overview**

Supranationalism is perhaps most associated with Europe, and within Europe, Strasbourg is a center of this phenomenon of economic and political integration. In *Strasbourg: Symbol of a United Europe* we not the impact of relative location and history on Strasbourg’s status as one of “Europe’s centers.” Strasbourg, whose name literally means “city of the roads that cross,” is located on the Rhine, Europe’s major river of commerce, is located where French and German cultures converge, and is located where roads from many European regions converge. History also reflects this convergence as sovereignty over the region has passed between France and Germany numerous times. These unique attributes have thus led to establishment of supranational headquarters in Strasbourg: namely the Council of Europe and the European Union Parliament.

Peaceful devolution? It happened to Czechoslovakia in 1993. In *Slovakia: New Sovereignty* we travel to the eastern part of the former Czechoslovakia to investigate causes of the “Velvet Divorce” and to see how the Slovaks are adjusting to their new sovereignty. We learn that the breakup of Czecholslovakia was based on (1) economic development, as the more developed western section (now the Czech Republic) advocated reforms not seen as beneficial to the eastern section (now Slovakia) and (2) cultural attitudes, as the people of the eastern section claimed lack of respect and disenfranchisement by those in the west. The two sections thus devolved, but with mixed feelings among many Slovaks. We learn that with Slovakia’s newfound sovereignty comes responsibility in dealing with (1) tenous ethnic relations, especially among the Hungarians and (2) development contrasts between eastern and western Slovakia

**Program 3 Test Bank**

1. Strasbourg’s status as a European center can be explained by its
   1. Cultural history
   2. Political history
   3. Relative location
   4. All of the above
2. Strasbourg is located in what region?
   1. Alsace
   2. Lorraine
   3. Ruhr
   4. Westphalia
3. What formed last?
   1. Council of Europe
   2. European Coal & Steel Community
   3. European Community
   4. European Union
4. What is NOT located in Strasbourg?
   1. Capital of Alsace
   2. Council of Europe
   3. European Union Parliament
   4. NATO
5. What is the Euro?
   1. Alsacian currency
   2. Council of Europe’s currency
   3. European Union’s currency
   4. NATO’s currency
6. What serves as the boundary between the Czech Republic and Slovakia?
   1. Ancient boundary between Czech and Slovak Republics
   2. Ancient boundary between Bohemia and Moravia
   3. Danube River
   4. Rhine River
7. Gabcikovo is a
   1. City
   2. Dam
   3. Province
   4. River
8. Hungarians constitute how much of Slovakia’s population?
   1. 10%
   2. 20%
   3. 35%
   4. 50%
9. Who are the Romani?
   1. Gypsies
   2. Hungarians
   3. Italians
   4. Romanians
10. The historical city of Poszony is now known by what name?
    1. Bohemia
    2. Bratislava
    3. Groznyy
    4. Prague
11. What forms the border between France and Germany in the vicinity of Strasbourg?
12. The European Union has administrative centers in what three countries?
13. What construction project has resulted in tension between the Slovaks and Hungarians?
14. What area of Slovakia is least economically developed?
15. What is the origin of the word Gypsy?
16. Discuss the locational, cultural, and historic attributes that have led to the establishment of supranational headquarters in Strasbourg.
17. Many Slovaks were ambivalent about their new sovereignty. Discuss some of the many reasons for their ambivalence.